

a little reassurance

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Summary: After Jason met with his 'Mother' Piper started to get worried for him since his injury wasn't healing and so to help Jason out Piper tells him one of her Grandpa Tom's Cherokee stories. How will it turn out. Rater T because I'm paranoid Characters belong to Rick Riordan.

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Piper

Piper didn't want to get yelled at by a three legged table when Jason visited her cabin that evening so she made sure to keep the door open as Buford the wonder table took his jog of coach hedge very seriously if he had the slightest suspicion that a girl and a boy were in the same room without super vision he would scream and scatter down the hall while a projection of coach hedge would shout: "Cut that out. Give me twenty push-ups. Put some clothes on!"

Jason sat at the foot of her bunk, "I was about to go on duty, just wanted to check on you first."

Piper nudged his leg with her foot, "The guy who got run through with a sword wants to check on me? How are you feeling?"

He gave her a lop-sided smile, his face was so tanned from their time on the coast of south Africa that the scar on his lip looked like a chalk mark, his blue eyes where even more startling, his hair had grown out chalk silk white and still had a cut from the time a brick got frown at his head while he had tried to protect her. Piper worried that if it took so long for that to heal how would he ever heal from the imperial wound in his gut.

"I've been worse," Jason said, "Once when I was on a quest I had both my arms chopped off." Piper blinked then slapped his arm gently.

"Shut up"

"I had you for a second though didn't I."

They held hands in a comfortable silence for a while. For a moment Piper could almost imagine they were normal teenagers enjoying each others company and learning to be a couple. Sure Jason and she had a few months in camp half blood, but Gea had always been looming and Piper always wondered what it would be like if they didn't always have to worry about dying everyday.

"I never thanked you" Jason said his expression turning serious, "Back when I saw my mum's remnant, when I was wounded you kept me from slipping away pipes, part of me," his voice faulted. "Part of me wanted to close my eyes and stop fighting." Piper's heart did a small twist, and she took both of his hands in her own, his strong hands where much softer then anyone would expect and she started rubbing small circular circles in the palm of his hand trying to give him a bit of peace in this world of chaos.

"Jason your one of the strongest demi-gods I know, you would never give up. You face your mothers spirit that was you who stopped her not me."

"Maybe?" his voice was dry. "I didn't mean to lay something so heavy on you pipes, its just that I have my mom's DNA. The human part of me is all her, what is I make the wrong choices? What if I make a decision when where facing Gea and it all goes wrong? I don't want to end up like my mum banished to Romania chewing on my regrets forever."

Piper cupped her hands around his, she felt like she was back on the deck of the R go 2 when the borides ice grenade detonated. "You'll make the right choices" she said. "I don't know what could happen to any of us but you could never end up like your mum."

"How can you be so sure?" Piper studied the tattoo on Jason's arm and then looked him right in the face.

"My dad told me this Cherokee story about making choicesâ€¦ No never mind, I'll start sounding like my grandpa Tom..."

"No tell me, what's the story?" Jason said and looked Piper straight in the eye, his bearing straight into hers with a small gleam in them.

"Well," Piper started and pulled Jason closer to her so he was on the bed and closer to her. "There these two Cherokee hunters in the forest right, and they both had taboos."

"Taboo?"

"It means a forbidden thing, anyway there's these two hunters and one's taboo is that he can't eat deer and the other can't eat squirrel, and one day they get stuck in the forest and they both got hungry, so the first hunter hunted a squirrel and started eating it while the other went hungry." Piper said and drawled him closer towards her so he was nearly on top of her, their eyes still joined together.

"Why couldn't the second hunter eat squirrel?" He said in a hollow voice while he came further on to Piper.

"I don't know, it's just something Cherokee do, like its taboo to eat eagles since it's bad luck, but some go off on their own and don't do something because the spirit world tells them not to or something." Jason was right on top of her now and brushing his hand through her hair. Which was terribly distracting.

"Mhh" Jason breathed his breath floating down her neck.

"Well anyway the first hunter started to feel guilty so he told the other hunter to have some. But the other hunter said He couldn't, it's taboo for him and he might turn to a snake or something, but the first hunter told him to just have some today and tomorrow he could go back to not eating squirrels."

"So he ate it?"

"Yeah." Piper said and leaned her head up so both their noses where touching, his body pressed against hers and he smiled down at her. She hoped he was listening but then again Piper couldn't really pay attention with him there on top of her but then again it wasn't horrible either.

"Then what happened?" Jason whispered, and grabbed her hands, his enclosing around hers and placing them between her head, concealing her in a warm, protective bubble of perfectness. Piper gave a heavy breath and then looked him up and down. Jason still smiling at her.

"The next day the first hunter woke up to the sound of screaming and ran towards the second hunter. When he got there the hunter and thru the cover off of the second hunter and watched as the man started to turn into a snake. The poor hunter wept and asked for forgiveness from the spirits but they didn't respond at the hunter turned into a snake"

"I do love these Cherokee stories, there so happy and up lifting."

"Yeah well..."

"So the guy turned into a snake and the morel of the story isâ€¦ Frank's been eating squirrels?"

She laughed, which felt good as her body vibrated against his. "No idiot the morel of the story is that trust your instincts, eating a squirrel might be just fine for one person and taboo for the other. The second hunter knew he had a serpent spirit inside him and he knew he shouldn't feed to that snake the squirrel meat but he did it anyway.

"So I shouldn't eat squirrels" Piper was relieved to see him amused.

"My point" She said poking her finger into his chest, "is that you. Jason Grace, are familiar with your own snakes and try your best not to feed them, you have solid instincts and you know not to feed them, even though you have annoying qualities you do your best not to let

the snake over ride you and you always try to make the right choice, so no more talk about giving up."

Jason bent his head to her ear. "Wait I have annoying qualities?" Piper roled her eyes and pressed her head back so she could see his beautiful blue eyes.

"Come here you." And Jason did releasing her hands and kissing her on the mouth, his warm soft gorgeous touch against hers felt heavenly, she pushed her hands thru his white-blond hair and pulled him on to her even more both their bodies as one.

Then she heard footsteps and looked at Jason. "Time for you to go now." She said and smiled at him.

Jason groaned but got up. "I love you Pipes, " Piper's Heart pounded against her chest and she smiled.

"I love you to, now go away."

At that moment Leo appeared around her door and said: "Hey having a party without me?"

"What's up Valdez?" Jason said.

"Oh just the usually. Some Ventie attacking up on deck."

"Okay, you better go, but first come here you." Jason walked towards Piper and she gave him a short peck on the cheek then messed up his hair. "Now seriously Sparky, get lost."

"Sparky?"

Piper rolled her eyes and pushed him out, but just before she pushed him out he took her by the waist and whispered in her ear: "thank you." And smiled down at her giving her a final kiss. "And don't worry I' good."

"That was kind of my point."

End
file.